

What Is Claimed Is:

1. Toothbrush, consisting of a brush head with bunches (2, 3, 4) of bristles arranged in an elongate bristle bed (1) and a handle (6) connected with the bristle bed (1) by way of a connecting part (5), wherein the bunches (3, 4) of bristles have a length varying in wave shape in longitudinal direction of the bristle bed (1), characterised in that first bunches (2) of bristles are arranged at the two outer sides of the bristle bed (1) and have split bristle ends and substantially the same length and that second bunches (3, 4) of bristles, which have a length varying in wave shape in longitudinal direction of the bristle bed (1), are arranged between the two outer sides of the bristle bed (1).
2. Toothbrush according to claim 1, characterised in that the upper ends of the outwardly disposed first bunches (2) of bristles are arranged above the lowermost ends of the inwardly disposed second bunches (3, 4) of bristles.
3. Toothbrush according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the upper ends of the outwardly disposed first bunches (2) of bristles exceed the highest ends of the inwardly disposed second bunches (3, 4) of bristles by at most 1 mm, but specifically extend at most up to the highest ends of the inwardly disposed bunches (3, 4) of bristles.
4. Toothbrush according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the depth of splitting of

the outwardly disposed first bunches (2) of bristles is up to 4 mm, particularly up to 2 mm.

5. Toothbrush according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that five to ten outwardly disposed first bunches (2) of bristles are provided per row of bunches.
6. Toothbrush according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the inwardly disposed second bunches (3, 4) of bristles have a length of 8 to 14 mm, particularly 9 to 12.5 mm.
7. Toothbrush according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the length difference of the second bunches (3, 4) of bristles lies at 1 to 2 mm.
8. Toothbrush according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the ends of the second bristles (3, 4) are rounded.
9. Toothbrush according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the inwardly disposed second bunches (3, 4) of bristles are arranged in rows extending transversely to the longitudinal axis of the bristle bed (1), wherein one to two rows of bristle bunches (4) with short bristles, especially with the same bristle length, alternate with one to two rows of bristle bunches (3) with long bristles, especially with the same bristle length.

10. Toothbrush according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the region of the short bristles (4) as measured in longitudinal direction of the bristle bed (1) has a length of 6 to 10 mm between the adjacent long bristles (3).
11. Toothbrush according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the spacing between the centre points of adjacent bunches (2, 3, 4) of bristles as measured at the bristle base (7) is 1.5 to 3.5 mm, particularly 2.0 to 3.0 mm.
12. Toothbrush according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that twenty to thirty inner bunches (3, 4) of bristles, particularly twenty-three to twenty-eight bunches (3, 4) of bristles, are provided as well as ten to twenty outer, split bristle bunches (2).